

IRAQI ELECTIONS

I. Pro-Western Conservatives Probable Winners
in Parliamentary Elections (today, 9 June).

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- A. [REDACTED] widespread government intervention in elections.
1. Aimed at Communist-dominated National Front.
 2. Hopes assure parliamentary control for Constitutional Union party of Nuri Said.
- B. Other leading conservative party--led by Saleh Jabr--split three ways.
1. Many, including Jabr--erstwhile Nuri foe--presently supporting Nuri.

II. Communist-directed National Front (illegal Communist Party plus leftist National Democratic Party, rightist Independence Party and independents) expected win 8 to 20 seats out of 135.

- A. Lower figure more likely.
- B. Late reports indicate arrest seven Front

candidates, tight control public meetings

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C. Communists threaten armed demonstrations.

1. Several killed, wounded, arrested so far.
2. However, Iraqi army to take over police posts 8-10 June, will return fire if crowd begins shooting.
3. Government considered able control situation.

III. Conservative Victory Means Continuation
Present Iraqi Foreign Policy:

- A. Implementation Iraqi-American arms agreement.
- B. Support for eventual adherence Turkish-Pakistani pact.
- C. Nonetheless, increased importance Communist Party a problem:
 1. With possibly 10 seats, Communist-controlled candidates can cause trouble through ability exploit anti-Westernism in parliament.

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2. Communists alone have made vigorous campaign, attracted independent support, spread propaganda against arms aid and pact, even though CP outlawed and continuously subject police repression.

D. Mounting tension in Iraq, despite election outcome:

1. Pro-Western politicians' apathy, absence genuine liberal, reform party, leaves Communists sole voice deep political, social discontent.
2. Elections doing nothing eliminate that discontent; extremism will grow.

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